

## THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Forty-eight hours hence the country will emerge from the shadow cast by the Presidential campaign of the year, and will proceed with its business in an orderly manner. So far as human judgment and foresight are of any value, the chances that the party of the Administration will not hold at the polls to-morrow are infinitesimal. Practically all of the developments during the campaign have been in favor of Republican success, and now that the necessary work is virtually completed, the indications that Bryanism, with all of its dire significance, will be again overthrown are overwhelming. As regards the influence of politics upon the financial outlook, it is now clearly a question of the extent of the victory. The people of the country have it in their power so effectively to settle the issues designated as Bryanism, that they will not again be proposed for political consideration. It may not be taking too far a look ahead to venture the prediction that future American political contests will be fought upon political lines, and not, as has been the case in this country for so long, with an admixture of social and economic elements. If such shall prove to be the case, our quadrennial national elections will be relieved of much of their disturbing effects upon business and finance. Strictly political contests in other countries of the first class do not fully contract of business and development of money and security markets, and there is no reason why they should in the United States.

What the voters of the country may expect in the one or the other issue of the elections has now been fully set forth and cannot be misunderstood. The intentions, political and financial, of both parties have been declared explicitly, and there is no doubt that either Administration will do all in its power to maintain its promises and to expand its strength. It is for the voters of the country now to choose between peace and prostration of trade or profound peace and prosperity. Prosperity, it is true, exists now, and in high degree, but it is still suspended, still susceptible of imminent disruption. Its permanence, however, only increases the anxiety, and it would be possible that the electorate of the country were to-morrow suddenly bereft of their safety. Bryan's election in 1900 would have had far less financial and commercial significance than it would have now, with the trade expansion and the extension of credit growing out of the conditions of the past three or four years. The fall now would be further and the shock much more severe. In fact, the moral reaction, no less than the financial ruin and commercial prostration which would follow the success of Bryanism, is incalculable. It is true that the course of the country would require for the recovery would indeed be long and arduous, but it is impossible to measure what may be called the sentimental effects of Bryan's speech, and it must be borne in mind that particularity as regards the stock market, sentiment is a factor not to be overlooked.

It is naturally on that account that interest and anxiety turn toward the financial community as likely to give the earliest and most pronounced reflection of the upshot of to-morrow's election. It cannot be doubted that anxiety in this regard will be fully satisfied. The financial community has made staked upon the issue that any other class, yet while their losses in the unlikely event of Bryan's success would be the greatest in volume, it will not be greater than that of the merchantile and of the whole wage-earning class. A severe shrinkage in investment capital could be viewed with unconcern, but it is not so serious a matter as the arrest or stoppage of wages and an acute dinner-pail. It is indeed perfectly certain that the worst suffers from Bryan's success would be those to whom he makes his most urgent special pleadings for support. His efforts to convince his hearers that the prostration of capital, as he conceives the term, would imply the enrichment of labor, as he conceives it, that term also, are only additional proof and evidence of the demagogic and desperate character he is now contesting. In that bath labor and capital, so styled, have prospered in the past four years, lies the best assurance of his defeat. In the inevitable linking of politics with financial discussion at the present time, the fact that the Democratic party and its most conspicuous political supporters in the State have declared for themselves a virtual alliance against Bryan, has resolved the voters' attention that should undoubtedly be attracted to it.

It has been noted before, it is not to be expected that any spectacular results will follow upon Republican success, for there is nothing spectacular or sensational about orderly progress and development. What may be looked for and counted upon confidently, is a further expansion of trade and a gradual solidification of the country's whole economic fabric. Surely as all signs now point, that is a sufficiently alluring prospect. Any other one of the family of nations would be glad to call it own. Not even in the stock market is it altogether reasonable to expect any sensational developments after the first burst of speculative fervor shall have run its course. What can be counted upon there, however, is also an orderly improvement and solidification of values resulting from the investment of the ample national capital and human energy that with political tranquillity will assuredly permanently strengthen the element still to be introduced into American securities in general. Four years of such prosperity as the United States have enjoyed, together with the general corporate rehabilitation of the period, have imparted a new value to American securities, and nothing further than the assurance of political tranquillity need guarantee that they shall attain their true and individual position, from an investment viewpoint. Participations are unnecessary, but it is within the truth to say that the Pennsylvanias and the New York Centrals of the present market era may be succeeded five years hence by the Union Pacifics and the Southern Railways.

There have been much discussion and multitudinous prophecies as to what will be the immediate market result of Bryan's success. It is plain that there would be the reversal of fortune, and the equalization of values which would follow Republican success, not only in the market for securities, but in the country's trade at large. Notwithstanding the great preponderance of chances in favor of Republican success, considerations of what might occur in the event of a contrary political issue brought speculation to a standstill in last week's stock market. There was, indeed, nothing approaching speculative demoralization, and in fact, the net results of the week's dealings were not particularly extensive. It can scarcely be doubted, however, that an interval of time of to-day's election would bring heavy and general liquidation. The shock would be severe, and the losses of speculators on margin insatiable. Subsequently, however, calmer views might be expected to prevail. It can be said, moreover, that, as was the case in 1896, the outlook and the probabilities are being carefully considered and weighed by the financial interests always in the face of times and emergencies, and it cannot be doubted that some palliative measures would be discovered and utilized should the emergency arise. The unusual source of prevention, however, is worth more than tons of any cure that can be devised, and I think the source of prevention will be furnished through the exercise of their judgmental sense by the people of this country to-morrow.

Notwithstanding the overshadowing influence exerted as well as in certain features of last week's situation, as regards the dealings in the stock market itself, the tendency was, as noted, rather reactionary until late in the week, when prices advanced again, chiefly because of one of those sudden turns in sentiment characteristic of the speculative community. The money market of the week was also interest-

ing, its hesitating tendency culminating on Friday evening approaching a flurry, in which the highest rates of the year were recorded. The only significance, however, that attached to the incident was that it apparently disclosed the attitude of certain large moneyed interests which, in addition to being extensive lenders of money, are also occasionally active in speculation. The flurry in the money market, at all events, would not have occurred except for the sudden calling in of loans by the interests in question at a time when sentiment, while confident, at the same time leans toward caution. The advance in the money market again found instantaneous reflection in the foreign exchanges, which at the end of the week closed at a level that, but for the fact of the elections on Tuesday, would have resulted in the immediate engagement of large amounts of gold.

Nor is likely, however, to be engaged until after the election, but the money market exchanges was again demonstrated.

It needs only to be added that the compilations of the mercantile agencies are particularly encouraging, showing as they do that notwithstanding the hindrance of the political uncertainty, there are distinct evidences of trade revival, and nowhere are they more pronounced than in the iron and other metal trades, a fact of plain significance. A review of the week's incidents would be incomplete, if it did not include the action of the management of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in declaring an extra dividend on the stock within less than a week of the elections. Their decision in this respect was of particular interest to those interested in the property and of great significance as indicating the well-grounded opinions of a set of men whose range of vision is in every way very extensive.

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

## UNITED STATES AND STATE BONDS.

| Sales               | Name  | Open  | High      | Low   | Clos. | Chg. | Int. |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|------|------|
| 1,000 U.S. 10%      | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1901 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1902 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1903 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1904 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1905 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1906 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1907 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1908 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1909 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1910 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1911 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1912 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1913 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1914 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1915 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1916 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1917 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1918 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1919 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1920 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1921 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1922 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1923 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1924 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1925 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1926 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1927 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1928 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1929 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1930 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1931 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1932 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1933 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1934 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1935 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1936 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1937 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1938 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1939 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1940 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1941 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1942 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1943 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1944 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1945 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1946 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1947 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1948 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1949 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1950 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1951 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1952 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1953 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1954 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1955 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1956 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1957 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1958 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1959 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1960 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1961 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1962 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1963 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05     | 11/05 |       |      |      |
| 10,000 U.S. 4% 1964 | 11/04 | 11/05 | 11/05</td |       |       |      |      |